



STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR
PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
RICHARD A. LEOPOLD, DIRECTOR

**MINUTES
OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION
MEETING
OCTOBER 9, 2008**

**Meeting Location:
Honey Creek Resort State Park
10468 185th Avenue
Moravia, Iowa**

For Office Use Only

Date Minutes Approved By NRC: _____

Director's Signature: _____

RECORD COPY
File Name: ADM 1-1-1
NRC MINUTES

Sender's initials _____

Call to Order

The meeting of the Natural Resource Commission was called to order by the Chair, Bill Bird, at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 09, 2008.

Commissioner Bird welcomed the public to the meeting and acknowledged the wonderful tour that was held 10/08/08 at the Rathbun Fish Hatchery/Research Facility and Honey Creek State Park Resort. He also thanked all the staff involved noting the Fisheries and Parks staff of Alan Johnson, Jeff Telleen, Mark Johnson, Alan Crouse, Jim Lawson, and Mike Godby. Commissioner Bird commented that during the Commission's last visit to the Resort, the footings were not done and it has been quite a project to get to this point. It is obvious why this is called a destination. Commissioner Bird expressed his pleasure at seeing the golf course busy, the staff were on top of things, the rooms were elegant, and the food was great.

Members Present

William Bird
Gregory Drees
Elizabeth Garst
Tammi Kircher
Carol Kramer
Janelle Rettig

Members Absent

Richard (Kim) Francisco

1. Approve Agenda

Commissioner Bird requested to move item 12 to after the public participation period. Commissioner Rettig moved the amended agenda. Commissioner Kircher seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

2. Approve 09/11/08 Minutes

Commissioner Drees moved. Commissioner Rettig seconded. Commissioner Bird commented the minutes were great, better than they have ever been. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

3. Director's Remarks

- The Governor's Board and Commission Members Orientation Session will be held 11/17/08 at Hotel Fort Des Moines and all members who have not attended since their appointment should be receiving an invitation.
- The Department has prepared an official reimbursement policy for the Commissions. For planning purchases, reimbursement is at the discretion of the Director, Board, or the Commission unless a Commissioner is on a standing committee. A copy of the policy will be provided to the commissioners. Commissioner Rettig inquired on how to handle DNR invitations received and reimbursement for attendance to events. The Director noted the Commissioners receive a number of invitations regarding DNR events and a way to discriminate will be need to be determined. Commissioner Garst suggested Commissioners be preauthorized to attend three per year.

- The Iowa Parks Foundation is up and running and it is encouraging to see the work they are doing in talking with industries and individuals. Their goal is to raise \$100 million by the year 2020 - State Parks' 100th year anniversary.
- Linda Hanson, Management Services Division Administrator, has submitted her retirement for the end of October and the Department is actively interviewing and reviewing applications. Sally Jagnandan is serving in the interim DA.
- Sustainable Funding for Natural Resources continues to march forward. The legislatively mandated committee is working on their report and the Coalition continues to hold public meetings and preparing to meet with legislators. The Director recommended the Commissioners be added to the Coalition's list serve so they are aware of the work they are doing. The Commissioners present agreed.
- This year's budget is harsh. We are starting to fully quantify across the department the effect of the floods of 2008 and it does not look good. The Environmental Services Division was mainly hit with staff time. Over 8,000 hours were devoted to flood efforts which took away from regular job duties. The Conservation and Recreation Division experienced a duty deficit also as well as damage in the millions to infrastructure. We are working with FEMA for reimbursement evaluation, as well as the Governor's Office and Executive Council for assistance and supplemental asks. Diane Ford-Shivvers has been doing the lion's share of this work. We are preparing for the worst and hoping for the best.
- The Governor continues with the Enterprise Planning Team. The future years will be even stronger. Unfortunately, funds have been re-appropriated from Energy and Environment. \$20 million out of Vision Iowa and the Department of Economic Development made a 20% across the board cut meaning the Department's share was cut by \$200,000. The Director has proposed this FY09 funding be kept.
- In November 16-18, 2008, the Department will be hosting a national conference with department heads of state resource management organizations to talk about 1) climate change, renewable energy potentials on state lands, and sustainability such as how we manage energy efficiency and 2) determine if we need a national organization to speak for states on a national level. We are aiming for over 20 states to attend this conference.
- The Department is starting to get serious regarding moving money and policy for water quality indexing. IDALS is an important partner in this issue and other partners are excited about this issue. In our lakes restoration program, we have taken three lakes off the impaired waters list.
- We do not have anything close to perennial waterways. To address this we have divided the state into nine water basins and watershed areas and they will have a coordinator and staff to work specifically in that area. This will be a system that is accountable-based using physical, chemical, and biological ratings.

4. Honey Creek Resort State Park Monthly Update

Deputy Director, Liz Christiansen thanked Commissioner Rettig for attending the Bond Authority meeting a few weeks ago. The Trustee was quite pleased at the progress. The Deputy Director showed the commission the presentation that was given to the Bond Authority. The lodge and golf pro-shop were reviewed and it was noted landscaping is in progress and much hard work has been done by the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) Volunteers and coordinated by Angela Corio. The cabins will be coming the spring of 2009. The contractor, Vieco, has been working very hard to get the cabins completed.

Discussion was held about the need for additional signage and/or billboards along the highway and peninsula to direct visitors to the resort.

Commissioner Garst gave a 'hats off' to all of the staff for all of the hard work. Although during the astronomy tour it was difficult to view the night sky. The lower floor lights and parking lot lights were causing light pollution, dimming the evening sky. Commissioner Garst offered to be the consultant for the activity center regarding the light issue. It was reported that Angela Corio had previously identified the lighting issue and changes are going to be made.

Don Labate presented on the back landscaping that is currently under construction. Deputy Director, Liz Christiansen and Don Labate will be meeting with the contractor, TSP, regarding the final landscaping costs. They want to assure the costs do not exceed prices originally budgeted for.

At the Bond Authority meeting, it was requested that a committee be created to provide monthly reports and recommendations for financial reporting requirements. It was recommended that Commissioner Rettig be on the committee. Liz Christiansen, Deputy Director would like to meet next Thursday or Friday morning to discuss linking the construction and operations budget. There have only been two change orders regarding the cabins, insurance and grating. One that may be coming up is in regards to cabin insulation.

Bill Duey; with The Army Corp of Engineers, who also presented to the Bond Authority and shared with the Commissioners the historical Rathbun Lake water levels. Rathbun Lake has seen a couple record levels this past year and we have had 49" of rain to date, which will be our second record setting amount. We are still 14' above normal level. Cabins and the lodge are safely above normal impacts. The lake will be drawn down approximately 4' for specific construction needs and a wetland mitigation project. Bill formally commended:

- Arnie Sohn on the seven year planning process to start construction in 2007.
- Ken Herring who communicated with the Bond Authority.
- Terry Montgomery for getting construction organized to get include things well down the road.
- Deputy Director, Liz Christiansen for pulling the construction to the end and preparing for the grand opening.
- The NRC Commissioners for their support.
- Bill also thanked the current Director, Richard Leopold and former Director, Jeff Vonk for their vision, leadership, and getting this project to where it is today.

Deputy Director, Liz Christiansen introduced some of the key staff at Honey Creek Resort: Jeremy Slagel, General Manager; Matt Weimer, VP Operations; and Rossie Baker, Sales/Reservations & Marketing. Deputy Director, Liz Christiansen commended Jeremy and his leadership through the challenges these past few months and Matt's coordination.

Jeremy Slagel reported there have had over 500 guests in approximately 12 days and over 4,100 total customers both in hotel and restaurant. The sales phones have been very busy booking future events. Staff has increased from 128 employees to 154 due to the business increase. Commissioner Kircher inquired where the workforce is coming from. Jeremy Slagel stated that staff are from the surrounding areas, some as far as 45 miles away.

Rossi Baker discussed the status of the cabins. There have already been several reservations made for the 2009 season for the 1, 2, and 4 bedroom cabins with some bookings through next spring and summer for individuals, family reunions, and corporate use. A large group of 300+ people have made reservations for cabins for their 100th family reunion and coverage with Good Morning America may take place. Rossie has also been working with several marketing venues to get the word out about the resort and cabins. She has done 7 radio spots on WHO Radio and the phones ring off the hook after airing.

Matt Weimer is seeking out recycled and earth friendly materials for use in the cabins. Director, Richard Leopold suggested that interpretive information/brochure be placed in the cabins to inform guests of the earth friendly materials used in the cabins.

Commissioner Rettig requested a summary page or estimates regarding the tracking of economic development on the local economy. Matt Weimer stated that they are conscientious of local use. They to utilize local vendor/merchants whenever possible while also trying to stay on budget.

Commissioner Rettig - Would like a summary page to show the tracking of economic development.

Deputy Director, Liz Christiansen introduced Carol Bradley with Rathbun Lake Resort (RLR) who has been an advocate for the Resort. Ms. Bradley reported she frequently hears positive stories in the community about the employment or community use that the Honey Creek Resort is doing. The Resort is also open to hearing what the community is wishing to share. As Vice President of Rathbun Lake Resort, she thanked the Commissioners and recognized that it took the Commission vision, courage, and persistence for this project to be successful and it is very much appreciated by not only the RLR but the surrounding communities. Ms. Bradley also commented on the economic activity occurring in the community due to this project. A less tangible outcome that has also occurred is the great pride in the citizens regarding this project. The State of Iowa has built a magnificent asset. She thanked the project leadership and resort staff for all of the hard work since the inception of this project, the staff has met challenges with tenacity and grace. Carol reported there is approximately \$600,000 of the original fundraising goal to meet, it is time to move out further than the local region. Carol stated that the tourism committees are working to identify their own opportunities and will work to build that into a regional tourism opportunity. Deputy Director, Liz Christiansen recommended having a brochure created to identify tourism opportunities in the region in the area. The names of the donors will be in the Grand Opening program next week.

Commissioner Rettig discussed the need to get the emergency access bridge and the broader trail system in and asked Ms. Bradley and local citizens to support those items by informing their legislators of the importance of those items.

Commissioner Garst inquired on the status of the local zoning. Bill Duey reported the area around the lake has been zoned for about 30 years. Many of those ordinances will need to be updated and there is a divided county on updating the existing laws and addressing the county zoning. Commissioner Garst recommended the DNR staff assist the local staff with this aspect.

Jennifer Nelson, DNR Budget and Finance, discussed the success of the Bond Authority meeting and acknowledged Central Group's professional presentation of budget information. Although the budget has been cut for fiscal year 2009, she is optimistic that the upcoming meeting will provide opportunity to address these issues. The numbers are being firmed up on the construction budget.

Commissioner Bird stated that the Resort exceeded his expectations and Deputy Director, Liz Christiansen's efforts are very much appreciated.

Public Participation

Lisa Walsh requested the Commission approve the Chapter 40 Speed and Distance Zone change for the Burlington area.

Bill Hanson commented on the high number of deer in the area he resides in and the feeling most famers in his area feel they should be allowed more than the current deer tag quota.

Ted Dixon, representing Farm Bureau - deer license transfers

5. Construction Projects

Bids were opened September 18, 2008, for the following projects:

5.1 - Pease Creek, Ledges State Park, Boone County -- Culvert Guardrail

This project consists of the construction of a steel guardrail adjacent to an existing culvert, and other related work as required by the Plans and the DNR Construction Inspector. The purpose of this project is to install new formed steel beam guardrails along both sides of the roadway, which currently has no guardrails, improving driving safety for the Public.

Project was designed by Ken Jackson and will be inspected by Richard Wilson. DNR estimate is \$22,000. Funding will be provided by 100% Parks and Institutional Road fund. 9 sets of plans were issued. 4 bids were received.

• Richards Construction Co. Inc.	Sac City, IA	\$27,250.00
• C.L. Carroll Co. Inc.	Des Moines, IA	\$29,106.00
• Van Sickle Construction Co.	Boone, IA	\$52,000.00
• West Central Construction	Arthur, IA	\$77,900.00

Staff recommends award of contract to Richards Construction Co. Inc., low bidder.

Commissioner Kramer moved. Commissioner Kircher seconded. Commissioner Drees inquired if this has been a safety issue. Don Labate is not aware of accidents but this project will ensure the area to meets state standards. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

5.2 - Nine Eagles State Park, Decatur County -- Cabin Area Utilities, Equestrian Area Water

This project consists of the extension of the sewer and water services to the future cabin site and extension of water services to the equestrian area, and other related work as required by the Plans and the DNR Construction Inspector. Construction of this project will allow for utility connections to future cabins. Sanitary sewer is connected by gravity to an existing manhole that flows to an existing treatment lagoon. Water service will be extended from the beach area, approximately 500 feet, to the future cabin site. This project will also provide water to the equestrian area. A connection will be made from rural water on the north edge of the park to the equestrian area, approximately 1600 feet, which will eliminate the need to haul water in tanks for horse and human consumption.

Project was designed and will be inspected by Jason Kruse. DNR estimate is \$45,000. Funding will be provided by 100% REAP Open Spaces fund (Capital Link #138). 13 sets of plans were issued. 8 bids were received.

• Boyd Construction	Leon, IA	\$46,268.40
• Schaefer Excavating	Mount Ayr, IA	\$51,985.00
• Schoon Construction	Cherokee, IA	\$73,877.50
• Jackson Creek Enterprise LLC	Allerton, IA	\$74,948.40
• J & K Contracting LLC	Ames, IA	\$82,048.20
• Communication Technologies	Huxley, IA	\$84,494.80
• Max Smith Construction	Creston, IA	\$91,857.20
• C.L. Carroll Co., Inc.	Des Moines, IA	\$98,358.00

Staff recommends award of contract to Boyd Construction, low bidder.

Commissioner Drees moved. Commissioner Rettig seconded. Commissioner Rettig inquired if changes made to increase the number of bidders received. Don Labate said it is essentially the same bid request except a drinking fountain aspect. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

5.3 - Lost Grove Lake, Scott County -- Consultant Contract for the Redesign of the Dam and Spillways

A scope of work and design fees have been negotiated for a professional services contract to redesign the Lost Grove Dam in Scott County. This project has been active for many years and the completion of the design and construction documents were delayed in 2005 due to a reclassification of the dam from a moderate hazard classification to a high hazard classification, as designated by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Iowa DNR Flood Plains Section. This new designation required additional geotechnical exploration and analysis. As part of the more stringent regulations and requirements of the higher dam rating, a redesign of the dam and principal spillway, as well as the emergency spillway, is needed. Earth Tech Inc., of Waterloo, IA, was the design professional for the previous dam design and has been active with this project since August 1996.

The DNR Director has authorized the negotiation of fees for professional services to re-design the Lost Grove Dam with Earth Tech, Inc. based on their years of work on the project and their specialized knowledge of the site, site conditions, design history and continuity with staff. Earth Tech, Inc. will be able to provide the services for less cost, in a shorter time and utilizing existing construction documents and CAD drawings that would not be available to another design firm. Although the original contract did not consider this project as a phased project, it is essentially that, where utilization of the current design professional would be in the best interest of the State of Iowa.

Staff recommends awarding the contract to Earth Tech, Inc. The firm has proposed a fee for services at their scheduled billable rates with an amount not to exceed \$170,000. Funding will be provided by 100% Marine Fuel Tax fund (Capital Link #122).

Commissioner Garst moved. Commissioner Kircher seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

6. Land Acquisition – Tuttle Lake Wetland Complex, Emmet County

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for the acquisition of a parcel of land located 1½ miles north and 3 miles east of Dolliver, and 18 miles northeast of Estherville. This 155-acre tract is offered by Mark Mitchell and Janet Stoner for the appraised price of \$170,712. The tract is encumbered by a Wetland Reserve Program easement acquired by the NRCS in 2004. Steven K. Schmidt, Licensed Appraiser of Schmidt Appraisal Services of Spirit Lake, Iowa submitted the appraisal. Jerry Gibson negotiated the purchase agreement.

The subject tract consists of 155 acres of former cropland encumbered by a WRP easement. The restoration of the tract included 122 acres seeded to native prairie plant species, and 33 acres of wetlands. There were 2.08 acres adjacent to the county road retained by the sellers from the larger 157.08-acre parcel. The restored wetlands and uplands provide excellent habitat for waterfowl and upland wildlife species. The parcel has excellent access from an adjacent county road. Funding for this acquisition will be provided by Prairie Lakes Phase II NAWCA Funds (100%) (Capital Link #10). Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

Commissioner Kircher moved. Commissioner Drees seconded. Commissioner Garst inquired if the Department has a right of first refusal on the neighboring two acres. Travis Baker reported not at this time but it may be negotiated at a later date. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

7. Land Acquisition – Table Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Woodbury County

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for the acquisition of a parcel of land located 20 miles southeast of Sioux City in Woodbury County. This 139.92-acre parcel is offered by Lyle and Frances Mitchell for the appraised price of \$139,920. The Natural Resources Conservation Service acquired a Wetland Reserve Program easement from the sellers on August 21, 2008. Douglas E. Helvig, Licensed Appraiser of Helvig Agricultural Service So., Sioux City, Iowa, submitted the appraisal. Jerry Gibson negotiated the purchase agreement.

The subject property is located two miles east and one mile north of Hornick, Iowa. The parcel contains 138.28 acres of cropland encumbered by a WRPE, and 1.64 acres of road right-of-way. After development there will be 82 acres of native prairie plantings; 15 acres of open water; and 41 acres of wetlands. There are no buildings. There is excellent public access from the county road on the northern boundary. The Wildlife Bureau will manage the land in compliance with the Wetland Reserve Program easement specifications. Funding for this acquisition will be provided by the DU Missouri River I (\$91,000) (Capital Link #15) and the Wetland Restoration (\$48,920) funds (Capital Link # 7). Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department. The property will remain on the Woodbury County property tax rolls.

Commissioner Rettig moved. Commissioner Drees seconded. Commissioner Rettig inquired on the Ducks Unlimited (DU) funding and the identification of NAWCA money. Staff reported the funds are from a NAWCA grant through DU and DU most likely has staff funding included. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

8. Land Management Agreement – East Des Moines River Wildlife Management Area, Kossuth County

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to enter into a new management agreement with the Kossuth County Conservation Board to manage the East Des Moines River Wildlife Management Area through December 15, 2033.

The agreement covers 121 acres acquired by the DNR in 2007. The property is located approximately five miles south of Algona, bounded on the west by the sovereign state owned East Des Moines River and on the west by U.S. Highway 169. The property surrounds an additional 50 acres owned by Kossuth County and will be managed for wildlife habitat and public hunting and fishing. The agreement will be in accord with the terms and conditions of the standard DNR management agreement.

Commissioner Kramer moved. Commissioner Drees seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

9. Land Management Agreement – Colo Bog Wildlife Management Area, Story County

The Natural Resource Commission's approval requested to enter into a new management agreement to authorize the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to manage approximately 165 acres owned by Story County at Colo Bog Wildlife Management Area, through December 31, 2032.

The DNR currently manages 440 acres of state-owned land in Colo Bog Wildlife Management Area. The County's property to be covered by this proposed agreement is located adjacent to the state land. The area is located approximately two miles east of Colo in eastern Story County, and U.S. Highway 30 bounds the area on the south. It will be managed for wildlife habitat and public hunting. The agreement will be in accord with the terms and conditions of the standard DNR management agreement.

Commissioner Kircher moved. Commissioner Rettig seconded. Commissioner Drees inquired if the County had managed the parcel to date. Travis Baker confirmed yes. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

10. Land Management Agreement – Bruggeman Wildlife Management Area, Black Hawk County

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to enter into a new management agreement with the Black Hawk County Conservation Board to manage the Duroe tract in Bruggeman Wildlife Management Area through October 31, 2033.

The agreement covers 124 acres acquired by the DNR in 2008 through cooperation with the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation. The property is located approximately nine miles northeast of Waterloo. The property shares approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of common boundary with a wildlife area owned by Black Hawk County and will be managed for wildlife habitat and public hunting and fishing. The agreement will be in accord with the terms and conditions of the standard DNR management agreement.

Commissioner Kramer moved. Commissioner Rettig seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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11. Request for Title Transfer – Swan Lake State Park, Carroll County

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for transferring a title to a 12.6 acre portion of Swan Lake State Park to Carroll County for no consideration. The Carroll County Board of Supervisors and the Carroll County Conservation Board (Board) have approved a resolution.

Swan Lake State Park is located approximately two miles southeast of the City of Carroll in Carroll County. The park contains 529 acres and has been successfully managed by the county since 1959. The Board currently manages the park under an agreement with the DNR that expires December 31, 2025.

In 2002, with DNR approval, the County completed construction of the Swan Lake Conservation Education Center, located on the 12.6 acre parcel, at a cost of approximately \$1.5 million. The County desires to acquire title in consideration of its significant financial investment of county funds, considerable sums of grant money, donations and volunteer labor; and its desire to improve the building and grounds on its own initiative.

Iowa Code section 461A.32 provides for conveyance without consideration of park lands to cities and counties by the Executive Council upon recommendation of the Natural Resource Commission. That section requires the deed for any such transfer shall include a provision that "when such lands cease to be used as a public park by said city or county such lands revert to the state." The Commission has recently approved similar title transfers to the City of Lakeside in 2000, Henry County in 2003 and the City of Storm Lake in 2005.

Commissioner Garst moved. Commissioner Rettig seconded. Mark River, Carroll County Conservation Board, presented information regarding the current management agreement and how this conveyance would provide for the CCB's investment. Commissioner Rettig expressed interest about doing a new 28E agreement. Attorney Kelley Myers stated the law allows that parks can be transferred to cities and counties and this particular agreement will allow a management transfer. The law protects the state's interest through reversion. Commissioner Rettig inquired on why not write a stronger management agreement versus transferring title. Attorney Myers stated this may deter counties from improving or building on land in a beneficial way if there is the fear that the land can be taken away. Commissioner Rettig expressed concern about setting a precedent and about giving away any land. Ken Herring summarized the idea of who can give a greater amount of protection to this project and that the land will be safe with the CCB and, if not, the State has the ability to step in and take back the land. To address this as a precedent, that is why we bring these to the Commission to evaluate them individually. Commissioner Drees commented that Swan Lake has been beautifully managed by the CCB and believes this is the right thing to do in this situation. Commissioner Garst agrees with the transfer of this property. Motion carried on a 5-1 vote with Commissioner Rettig voting "nay." Motion carried.

12. Partnership Award

The Natural Resource Commission is asked to recognize the efforts of Clinton County District Conservationist Bruce Van Laere by presenting him with a Partnership Award. Partnership Awards are presented to individuals from other agencies that work cooperatively with DNR staff to achieve program goals and further natural resource protection in Iowa.

Four years ago, adjacent landowners to Goose Lake Wildlife Area near Goose Lake, Iowa, claimed that the Department's management of Goose Lake was adversely affecting their cropland. In response, the Clinton County Board of Supervisors threatened to remove a newly constructed dike and water control structure that was developed to create over 200 acres of wetland habitat to address the concerns of the adjacent landowners. To facilitate an unbiased report and resolution, the Department solicited the assistance of the Natural Resources Conservation Service to set up a water monitoring study that would help determine how the Department's management of Goose Lake was affecting ground water levels in the marsh and on adjacent private land. It was important to the credibility of this study that an agency or individual other than Department staff implement this ground water monitoring study.

Mr. Van Laere graciously agreed to assist the Department with this project. Mr. Van Laere has been employed for 29 years with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). With the assistance of NRCS engineers and soil scientists, ground water monitoring wells were established on both DNR land and adjacent private land. For the next three years, Mr. Van Laere and his staff recorded water level data from each of the three wells on two week intervals. Mr. Van Laere plotted the data and provided expert analysis of the results that were then reported to the Clinton County Board of Supervisors. His excellent working relationship with landowners and the Board of Supervisors, his thorough knowledge of Clinton County and its soils, and the professionalism he exhibited in the analysis of the water monitoring data were paramount to the success of this project. His findings identified that adjacent landowners are not affected by the Department's management of the Goose Lake Wildlife Area water levels.

It is with great pleasure that we recognize Clinton County District's Natural Resources Conservationist Bruce Van Laere with our Partnership Award in appreciation for his exceptional efforts in helping DNR resolve a potentially volatile issue.

Information Item

Ken Herring introduced and presented a partnership award to Bruce VanLaere. Appreciation was expressed for this work done on this project which his long term commitment was above and beyond his regular job duties.

13. Appeal of Decisions of the Administrative Law Judge; Suspension of the Fishing Licenses

This Item consists of three separate appeals to the Commission for review of Decisions issued by Administrative Law Judge Paul McIntyre. The three cases were consolidated for hearing and are therefore presented together on appeal.

On September 27, 2005, Joseph Gilpin was convicted of four counts of taking fish by illegal methods. On October 18, 2005, James Gilpin and John Gilpin were convicted of four counts of taking fish by illegal methods. These convictions arise out of incidents on April 20, 2005. The

District Court entered one year license suspensions at the time of sentencing for all three individuals. Copies of the convictions and suspension were sent to the DNR conservation officer involved in issuing the citations.

On August 28, 2007, the Department's Law Enforcement Bureau received notice of the convictions from the District Court. On that date, the Department issued notices of suspension to all three individuals indicating that their fishing licenses, including commercial fishing, would be suspended for two years. Those notices were appealed.

The appeals were heard jointly by Administrative Law Judge Paul McIntyre in June of 2008. Decisions were issued by Judge McIntyre on June 13, 2008 upholding the suspensions in all three cases. Timely appeals were filed.

The Commission may uphold the Decision of the Administrative Law Judge, reverse the Decision, or modify the Decision in accordance with the applicable statutes and rules.

The Gilpins' attorney Steve Swan, presented background information to the case and client relevance to the outcome of a decision. A timeline of events, decisions, and outcomes was presented due to Commissioner Rettig's request. Discussion held regarding the process of document handling for habitual offenders within the Department.

Commissioner Kircher moved to uphold the administrative law decision. Commissioner Garst seconded. The Commission determined each case would be voted on individually via a roll call vote.

Joseph Gilpin

Roll Call Vote:

William Bird - aye
Gregory Drees - aye
Elizabeth Garst - aye
Tammi Kircher - aye
Carol Kramer - aye
Janelle Rettig – aye

Due to a unanimous vote, the administrative law ruling stands.

John Gilpin

Roll Call Vote:

William Bird - aye
Gregory Drees - nay
Elizabeth Garst - aye
Tammi Kircher - aye
Carol Kramer - nay
Janelle Rettig – nay

Due to a tie vote, the administrative law ruling stands.

James Gilpin**Roll Call Vote:**

William Bird - aye
Gregory Drees - nay
Elizabeth Garst - aye
Tammi Kircher - aye
Carol Kramer - nay
Janelle Rettig - nay

Due to a tie vote, the administrative law ruling stands.

Due to the votes being tied for John and James, Attorney Jon Tack directed that the Commission needs to present a motion to overturn or modify the administrative law decision.

Commissioner Rettig moved to reverse the administrative law decision for John and James Gilpin. Commissioner Drees seconded. The Commission determined John and James would be voted together via a roll call vote.

John and James Gilpin**Roll Call Vote:**

William Bird - nay
Gregory Drees - aye
Elizabeth Garst - nay
Tammi Kircher - nay
Carol Kramer - aye
Janelle Rettig - aye

Due to a tie vote, the administrative law ruling stands.

Attorney Mark Swan inquired of the Commission's motion to modify the law. Commissioner Rettig moved to modify the administrative law decision to have John and James to begin serving their suspension from 09/01/2007 to 08/31/2009. Commissioner Drees seconded. The Commission determined John and James would be voted together via a roll call vote.

John and James Gilpin**Roll Call Vote:**

William Bird - nay
Gregory Drees - aye
Elizabeth Garst - nay
Tammi Kircher - nay
Carol Kramer - aye
Janelle Rettig - aye

Due to a tie vote, the administrative law ruling stands.

14. Hardwood Timber Sale Shimek State Forest

The Natural Resources Commission is asked to approve the sale of an estimated 104,700 board feet of mixed hardwood trees at the Shimek State Forest. The sale consists of 735 trees.

Species	Number of Trees by Diameter			BF Volume
	14"-16"	18"-22"	24" +	
White oak	123	273	20	56,760
Red oak	42	107	9	25,440
Black oak	29	59	6	13,900
Black cherry	10	1	0	1,460
Walnut	2	5	0	1,160
Other	28	20	1	5,980
Total	234	465	36	104,700

A shelterwood management system will be used in accordance with the Shimek State Forest Management Plan to remove sixty to seventy percent of the canopy in this stand. The harvest will create small openings and allow for natural regeneration of oak and other tree species. Prescribed fire may be used periodically as a management tool to stimulate oak regeneration and control competing vegetation after the harvest. The remaining trees in the stand will provide a seed source for natural regeneration to supplement the natural oak regeneration already present in this stand. In a few years, when the new forest is well established, the remaining larger trees will be harvested to release the young stand of trees.

A natural areas inventory was conducted, and there are no known threatened and endangered species in the harvest area. Some oaks in this stand are declining due to oak wilt.

Wildlife den trees will not be marked and will be left standing. Best management practices (BMP's) will apply to the site. No tops or harvesting residue will be left in adjacent waterways. Harvesting is to occur only when ground is firm or frozen to minimize soil disturbance. Skid trails and landing areas will be repaired following the harvest. No skid trails will be allowed in the SMA (within 50 feet of the adjacent waterway) except at designated stream crossings.

The following bids were received for the sale:

Company	Location	Amount of Bid
Hammes Bros. Sawmill	Ollie, IA	\$59,962.00
Langenbach Wood Products	Fort Madison, IA	\$36,424.00
D & K Logging	Waterville, IA	\$32,790.00
Woodcrest Logging	Drakesville, IA	\$32,460.00
Weiland and Sons	Winthrop, IA	\$27,128.00
Brislawn Logging Co.	Troy Mills, IA	\$15,745.60
Buffalo Lumber and Tie Co.	Fountain City, WI	\$13,007.20

The Commission is requested to approve a contract with the high bidder, Hammes Bros. Sawmill, for \$59,962.00.

Commissioner Drees moved. Commissioner Kircher seconded. Commissioner Garst expressed appreciation for the burn plan. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

15. Notice of Intended Action: Chapter 40—Speed & Distance Zoning

The Commission is asked to approve the Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 40, “Speed & Distance Zoning,” Iowa Administrative Code. This amendment is being requested by the City of Burlington for the creation of a five mile per hour speed zone on the Mississippi River to be located within the City of Burlington. The area being proposed is a historic riverfront and also contains two municipal boat ramps and public dock areas. The speed zone will extend no further than approximately 150 feet west of the barge channel.

The City of Burlington is requesting this amendment to help preserve the aesthetics of the historic frontage as well as to protect the safety of the public who use the docks and boat ramp for water recreation purposes.

Commissioner Kircher moved. Commissioner Drees seconded. Commissioner Rettig inquired how the the no wake vs. 5 mph was enforced. Lowell Joslin reported that no wake speed means you can travel until you create a wave action or disturb someone else or the bank. It does not mean idle speed. A 5 mph speed restriction is easier to enforce. Commissioner Rettig commended the Department for reviewing the rule and creating revisions. Commissioner Kircher reported this rule will help with the two areas in Burlington. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

16. HUSH Annual Contract with the Food Bank of Iowa

The Department requests Commission approval to renew the annual contract with the Food Bank of Iowa to assist in the administration of the Help Us Stop Hunger (HUSH) program.

There are no changes from the previous several years. The expense part of the contract requires the DNR to pay the Food Bank at the rate of \$5 per donated deer, the same rate that has been paid since HUSH began in 2003.

Services provided by the Food Bank include arranging for all the storage and distribution of the ground venison from the 90 individual meat processors (lockers) to the needy Iowa end users, making several payments to each of the 90 lockers for processing, collecting and processing all financial and deer donation records. These services allow the DNR to devote only about 0.3 FTE in the administration of one of the nation’s most efficient and largest deer donation programs.

The DNR provides three to four payments per year to The Food Bank of Iowa from revenue provided by the \$1 HUSH fee on each deer license, supplementing the HUSH fee with money from the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund. The Food Bank retains \$5 per deer as an administration payment and uses the rest of the funds to issue payments to meat processors who provide a ‘hunter card’ for each deer processed. The Food Bank is a federally-recognized charitable organization which has limited paid staff and relies on its host of volunteers.

HUSH income from the \$1 fee was approximately \$380,000 last year. Total payments to the Food Bank under this contract last year was \$584,500, with total payments to meat processors being about \$542,750 and total funds retained by the Food Bank for its administration of the program being \$41,750. This program produced 8,350 donated deer and generated about 1.6 million ¼-pound servings to Iowa’s needy.

Commissioner Drees moved. Commissioner Kramer seconded. Commissioner Garst commended the HUSH program and inquired on the testing of product for lead content. Ross Harrison stated, due to the amount of testing the Department of Public Health completed and continues to perform, they report there is a strong disconnect to lead in venison and human health issues but remain aware of the issue and keep communication open regarding the issue. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

17. REAP City Parks and Open Space Grants – September 2008

The Department requests Commission approval of the recommendations from the Project Review and Selection Committee for REAP City Parks and Open Space Grants. This committee met September 12 to evaluate project applications. Committee members are Ron Walker, Chairperson (Arnolds Park City Administrator), Sherri Proud (Coralville Park and Recreation Director), Kelley Canfield (Clive Parks and Recreation Director), Pat Prevenas (Dubuque Park and Recreation Director), and Kim Bogenschutz (Aquatic Nuisance Biologist, DNR Fisheries Bureau).

Sixty-five applications totaling \$5.3 million in grant requests were submitted for consideration during this FY 09 grant round. Available funds total about \$2.8 million, a 17% increase over last year due to an appropriations increase for REAP from \$15.5 million last year to \$18 million this year. Twenty-eight grants are recommended for funding this year, compared to 25 last year. One grant round is being held this fiscal year and all available funds are recommended for allocation. The tables below show the top cities to be funded at the top of each category in boldface type. In case any of the top-ranked grants cannot be implemented, your approval is requested for all grant rankings so that the Department may award additional projects in the order ranked below until the money is fully obligated.

REAP CITY PARKS AND OPEN SPACE GRANT PROGRAM - September 2008

SMALL CITIES - Population less than 2,000 -- \$608,430 available

ID NUMBER	CITY AND POPULATION	RANK	TOTAL POINTS	GRANT REQUEST	PROJECT NAME
27	Ackley 1,809	1	106.8	\$75,000.00	Prairie Bridges Park Siems Tract Wetlands Development, Ph. 1
23	Preston 949	2	102.8	\$75,000.00	Copper Creek - Trail Connection
30	Gilbert 987	3	98.2	\$50,000.00	Gilbert-Ames Greenway Trail
29	Jewell 1,239	4	95.2	\$35,920.00	Vulgomott Trail Link
14	Cambridge 819	5	94.8	\$50,000.00	City Recreation Area & Outdoor Learning Center
7	Lake Park 1,023	6	93.3	\$75,000.00	Silver Lake Trail, Phase 1 (Walker Abstain)
15	Woodward 1,200	7	93.2	\$75,000.00	Woodward Depot Acquisition and Restoration
4	Walcott 1,528	8	90.6	\$75,000.00	Walcott Recreation Trail and Nature Park
10	Slater 1,306	9	88.8	\$75,000.00	Grand Central Station - Trailhead
13	Dallas Center 1,595	10	86.8	\$75,000.00	Raccoon River Valley Trail Addition - Phase 2, Dallas Center (\$22,510 available)
9	Dawson 155	11	86.4	\$50,000.00	If REAP fully funded, Dallas & Dawson would be fully funded Raccoon River Valley Trail Addition Phase 2, Dawson
25	Jamaica 237	12	86	\$50,000.00	Jamaica Raccoon River Valley Trail Construction
8	Minburn	13	85.6	\$50,000.00	Raccoon River Valley Trail Addition Phase 2, Minburn
28	Breda 477	14	83.4	\$50,000.00	Sauk Rail Trail Paving
12	Middletown 535	15	81.8	\$19,060.00	Middletown Park - Multi-use Pathway
26	Panora 1,175	16	79.4	\$75,000.00	Panora Raccoon River Valley Trail Construction
11	Lynnville 366	17	79.2	\$50,000.00	Old Settlers Park Restoration
20	Fredericksburg 984	18	79	\$39,417.00	Plum Creek Trail Enhancements

24	Yale 287	19	77	\$50,000.00	Yale Raccoon River Valley Trail Construction
16	Farmington 756	20	75.2	\$50,000.00	Wild Rose Trail Project
19	Bondurant 1,846	21	74.2	\$75,000.00	Bondurant Connector Trail
18	Blue Grass 1,169	22	72	\$75,000.00	The Blue Grass Trail - Phase 1 (Segment 1 & 4)
6	Dunlap 1,139	23	71.2	\$10,793.18	Pleasant View Park Campground
21	Nashua 1,618	24	70.8	\$75,000.00	Cedar View Park
3	Ventura 670	25	66.6	\$50,000.00	West Lake Park
2	Hartley 1,733	26	63.8	\$50,000.00	Neebel Park shelter and Bath House
17	Hinton 808	27	58.8	\$50,000.00	Ashley's Paralympic Park
31	Crescent 537	28	58.6	\$50,000.00	Old Lincoln Highway Veterans' Monument
1	Ute 378	29	56	\$22,500.00	City of Ute Fitness Park
5	Larchwood 788	30	53.8	\$20,269.44	City Path Parkway
22	Lawler 461	31	49.6	\$21,486.46	Replace Bleachers at Junko Park
	TOTAL			\$1,644,446.08	

REAP CITY PARKS AND OPEN SPACE GRANT PROGRAM - September 2008

**MEDIUM CITIES - Population 2,000 to 25,000 --
\$908,063 available**

ID NUMBER	CITY AND POPULATION	RANK	TOTAL POINTS	GRANT REQUEST	PROJECT NAME
20	Madrid 2,264	1	97.8	\$75,000.00	Madrid Trailhead & Gateway Park
12	Clive 12,855	2	94.5	\$125,000.00	Alice's Road Property Acquisition (Canfield Abstains)
24	North Liberty 5,637	3	92	\$100,000.00	Cornerstone Park Nature Area
8	Nevada 6,658	4	91.2	\$100,000.00	Indian Creek Greenbelt Trail System
10	Muscatine 22,697	5	90.2	\$70,788.00	Weed Park Zoo Garden & Trail
22	Altoona 10,345	6	89.4	\$125,000.00	Prairie Heritage Civic Center Plaza
16	Atlantic 7,257	6	89.4	\$75,000.00	East Ridge Park Development
15	Grinnell 9,105	7	88.2	\$100,000.00	Arbor Lake East Trail shore Project - Phase 4C
23	Chariton 4,573	8	85.2	\$75,000.00	Chariton East Lakes Project, Year 2
11	Story Center 3,228	9	84.8	\$75,000.00	Pedestrian/Bike Trail and Skunk R. Bridge (\$62,275 available)
					If REAP fully funded, either Perry or Centerville would be fully funded. Since both are "Great Places," this would require a re-scoring to break the tie.
9	Perry 7,633	10	82.8	\$100,000.00	Raccoon River Valley Trail Addition Phase 2, Perry
25	Centerville 5,924	10	82.8	\$100,000.00	Lelah Bradley Active Living Campus Pedestrian Bridge Project
5	Wapello 2,124	11	82.6	\$31,608.00	Construction of a Fishing Pier
19	Spencer 11,317	11	82.6	\$125,000.00	Deerfield Park
7	Ottumwa 24,998	12	81.8	\$150,000.00	Ottumwa Trails Project - North Levee
6	Iowa Falls	13	79.4	\$100,000.00	Rock Run Creek Recreation Trail, Phase 2
13	Dyersville 4,035	14	76.6	\$75,000.00	Westside Park Pedestrian Bridge
2	Webster City 8,176	15	74.4	\$100,000.00	East Second Street Trail for Kids
14	Sibley 2,796	16	71	\$75,000.00	Winkel Trail Spur to Robinson Park

17	Rock Rapids 2,573	17	71	\$18,000.00	West Side Park Comfort Station & Landscaping
4	Mount Vernon 3,390	18	70.6	\$75,000.00	Mount Vernon Nature Trail and EE Area
1	Ottumwa 24,998	19	69.4	\$125,000.00	Des Moines River Park Shelter
21	Denison 7,339	20	68.2	\$100,000.00	Denison Recreation Trail
18	Carter Lake 3,248	21	63.8	\$70,922.00	North Shore Boat Docks & Fishing Pier
3	Windsor Heights	22	63	\$75,000.00	Colby Park Trail Hub Public Restrooms
	TOTAL			\$2,241,318.00	

REAP CITY PARKS AND OPEN SPACE GRANT PROGRAM - September 2008

LARGE CITIES - Population more than 25,000 -- \$1,260,458 available

ID NUMBER	CITY AND POPULATION	RANK	TOTAL POINTS	GRANT REQUEST	PROJECT NAME
3	Cedar Rapids 120,758	1	108.8	\$234,473.00	Protecting a Beautiful Woods
2	Davenport 98,359	2	98	\$51,975.00	Phase III Sunderbrunch Park Improvements
9	Council Bluffs 58,268	3	96.2	\$200,000.00	Big Lake Park Phase 2 - West Lake Restoration
6	Burlington 26,839	4	94.6	\$150,000.00	Flint River Trail, Phase 2
7	Dubuque 57,686	5	88.3	\$200,000.00	Iowa 32 Bike/Hike Trail - Phase 2 (Prevenas Abstains)
4	Marshalltown 26,009	6	84.6	\$150,000.00	Riverview Park Development Phase 1
5	Marion 26,294	7	80.8	\$150,000.00	Krumholtz Woods Parkland Enhancement
8	Sioux City 85,013	8	80.2	\$197,000.00	Riverside Park Trail, Phase 1 (\$124,010 available)
					If REAP fully funded, all projects would be fully funded, including Mason City below
1	Mason City 29,172	9	74.2	\$75,000.00	Trolley Trail Extension
	TOTAL			\$1,408,448.00	

Commissioner Drees moved. Commissioner Kircher seconded. Commissioner Rettig discussed community block grant recipients are required to write a letter to the newspaper and have a gathering. Ross Harrison reported that the Commission approved, a few years ago, a rule to include a public communications plan about their grant. Mary Braun was recognized for her support and work regarding funding for REAP. Commissioner Garst noted that there are a number of unfunded trail maintenance requests through REAP and urges that these requests be evaluated as high as new trail requests. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

18. REAP County Conservation Board Grants – September 2008

The Department requests Commission approval of the recommendations of the Project Review and Selection Committee for REAP County Conservation Board grants. That group met September 16, 2007 to evaluate project applications. Committee members are Jim Liechty, Chair (Madison CCB), Julie Ohde (Louisa CCB), Mark Peterson (Woodbury CCB), Arnie Sohn, DNR, and Tom Anderson, DNR Energy and Waste Management.

Thirty-five applications totaling more than \$7 million in grant requests were submitted for consideration during this FY 09 grant round. Available funds total \$1,481,040, a 17% increase over the previous year. Below are the top ranking projects, heading the list in boldface type. Note that 7th ranked project of Polk CCB will be funded at a little more than one-half its requested amount, in its use of all remaining funds after the first six are fully funded.

If REAP would have been fully funded at \$20 million, there would have been enough to fully fund Polk and the next grant from Tama. In the event that any of the top grants are unable to execute their project, approval is sought to offer those funds down the list in the ranking order as shown.

REAP COUNTY CONSERVATION GRANT PROGRAM -- September 2008

\$1,481,040 available

ID NUMBER	CCB APPLICANT	RANK	TOTAL POINTS	GRANT REQUEST	PROJECT NAME
6	Dallas	1	136.00	\$95,824.00	Raccoon River Greenbelt Plan, Wagner Parcel Acquisition
14	Harrison	2	135.80	\$592,752.00	Old Town Conservation Area - Romeo Unit
8	Dallas	3	135.60	\$237,800.00	Raccoon R. Greenbelt Land Acq: Kuehn Area, Anderson Tract
5	Linn	4	133.20	\$96,000.00	Upland Woodland Addition to Pinicon Ridge Park
1	Sioux	5	130.60	\$300,000.00	Fairview Wildlife Complex
27	Clay	6	128.80	\$90,875.00	Oneota Park Additions
11	Polk	7	128.60	\$125,760.00	Thorn Valley Addition to Chichaqua (\$67,789 available)
					If REAP fully funded, Polk & Tama fully funded
33	Tama	8	127.40	\$147,363.00	Hansen Addition to Otter Creek Lake & Park- Parcel A
7	Wapello	9	125.80	\$148,380.00	Gleich Acquisition
24	Guthrie	10	125.60	\$225,000.00	Raccoon River Valley Trail Extension
28	Iowa	11	124.80	\$219,950.00	Lake Iowa Nature Center Project
13	Des Moines	12	123.40	\$100,000.00	Flint River Trail: Phase 3
34	Mitchell	13	122.80	\$55,857.00	Wapsi Great Western Line Trail
4	Woodbury	14	122.50	\$150,000.00	Dorothy Pecaute Nature Center Exhibit Renovation (Peterson Abstains
21	Dubuque	15	122.20	\$150,000.00	Heritage Trail - Hwy 52 Pedestrian Overpass
2	Hancock	16	122.00	\$120,000.00	Goodell Timber Expansion
25	Audubon	17	121.00	\$100,000.00	T-Bone Trail Phase 5: Exira to 260th Street
3	Plymouth	18	119.40	\$400,000.00	Plymouth County ECO Center
26	Carroll	19	118.60	\$200,000.00	Sauk Rail Trail Paving
29	Poweshiek	20	117.80	\$58,000.00	Diamond Lake Trail Land Acquisition Project
23	Crawford	21	117.20	\$450,400.00	Neal Moeller Interpretive Environmental Education Addition
19	Black Hawk	22	116.40	\$107,559.00	Twin Springs Acquisition
30	Poweshiek	23	116.40	\$499,616.00	Diamond Lake Campground Project
16	Warren	24	115.40	\$698,000.00	Diehl Wetland Acquisition
35	Clinton	25	114.60	\$161,590.00	Mississippi River Eco Tourism Center
20	Dickinson	25	114.40	\$234,850.00	Dickinson County Nature Center Geothermal Project
18	Grundy	27	113.40	\$200,000.00	Grundy County Lake Trail Segments A-2 & A-3

31	Page	28	111.80	\$330,000.00	Rapp Park and Recreation Area
15	Kossuth	29	111.40	\$141,800.00	Scuffham Brothers Acquisition
12	Polk	30	110.00	\$64,500.00	Jester Park Cabin Project
17	Chickasaw	30	110.00	\$71,800.00	Airport Lake Park Campground
22	Hamilton	32	108.20	\$216,782.00	Little Wall Lake Campground Renovation, Phase 1
10	Cherokee	33	108.00	\$80,750.00	Martin's Access Shower Facility
9	Polk	34	99.00	\$63,759.00	Trail Maintenance Equipment
32	Franklin	35	86.00	\$80,000.00	South West Hunting Access
				\$7,014,967.00	

Commissioner Kircher moved. Commissioner Rettig seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

19. REAP Private Public Cost-Share Grants – September 2008

The Department requests Commission approval of the recommendations of the Project Review and Selection Committee for the REAP Public/Private Cost-sharing grants. That group met September 10 to review and score applications. The committee is administered by Arnie Sohn and includes three members from the DNR: Paul Tauke, Kevin Szcodronski, Jeff Joens; and three members from outside the agency: Jon Kruse of Storm Lake representing DU, Margo Underwood of Mason City, and Glenn Vondra of Adel representing both the Iowa Wild Turkey Federation and the Safari Club International.

A total of \$518,364 is available from the REAP Open Spaces Account to cost share with private entities for the purchase of high-quality natural areas that become DNR property.

Successful grants must provide at least 25% of the cost. The four grants totaled \$756,625 in requests, leaving the 4th ranking grant with \$46,114 available. The Department is still in discussions with the Nature Conservancy to determine whether it will accept this partial award. If not, the Department will distribute the funds with next year's grant round.

PROJECT NAME & RANK	COUNTY OF PROJECT	APPLICANT	ACRES	PRICE	GRANT REQUEST	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TOTAL SCORE
No. 1 - Stone State Park Addition-Lieber Tract	Woodbury	Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation	24	\$67,000	\$50,250.00	Loess Hills prairie remnants and archaeological sites adjoining 1292-acre Stone State Park	163.5
No. 2 - Upper Iowa River Wildlife Management Area Addition	Winneshiek	Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation	48.3	\$279,500	\$182,500	Primarily reconstructed prairie and riparian woodland along Upper Iowa with approx. 1/2-mile of river frontage. Part of a projected 900-acre project	155.67

No. 3 - Loess Hills Wildlife Management Area Addition	Monona	Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation	136	\$443,766	\$240,000	Mixed native prairie remnant and oak savanna (78 acres) and cropland (58 acres), the latter to be converted to local ecotype seed source site by DNR. Addition to 3896-acre WMA	155.33
No. 4 - Five Ridge Prairie Addition at Broken Kettle Grasslands Bird Conservation Area	Plymouth	The Nature Conservancy	160	\$427,500	\$283,875 only \$46,114 available after funding top 3 grants	The Lloyd Tract includes 108 acres of remnant prairie and bur oak woodlands, along with 52 acres of cropland.	150.17

Commissioner Drees moved. Commissioner Garst seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

20. Donations

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the following donations:

Donation to:	Amount	Description	Donation Provided by (Name/Org):
REAP	\$50.00	in memory of Albert Neil Nelson	Joyce Standley
IA DNR Law Enforcement Bureau	\$85.00	for muzzleloader supplies and Pyrodex powder for use in Muscatine County's youth Hunter Education Program	Curt Pieper and the Muscatine Oakridge Monarchs Chapter of the NWTF
Lacey-Keosauqua State Park	\$85.00	for the welding repair of a mower deck	David McQuoid McQuoid Welding and Machining
IA DNR - Fisheries Bureau	\$100.00	for Big Spring Trout Hatchery	Lembke
the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	in support of the work done at Ingham Wildlife Unit	Abbot John Klassen St. John's Abbey and University
Prairie Rose State Park	\$120.00	for the purchase and installation of six bushes for the new cabin area and butterfly garden seed planting.	Lincoln Bluebirds 4-H Club
Viking Lake State Park	\$154.05	for the red oak and a cotton wood trees in memory of Lawrence Caver	Lawrence Caver Family
the DNR HUSH Program	\$500.00	to assist with the cost of processing venison	Drury Marketing, Inc.
IA DNR Law Enforcement Bureau	\$662.00	for two Remington Youth 870 shot guns and ammunition for use in the youth Hunter Education Program	John Wallace Sons of the American Legion
IA DNR - Fisheries	\$1,250.00	for 50,000 rainbow trout eggs toward recovery efforts to replace trout lost in	Tom Pruitt US Fish and Wildlife

Bureau		the flood at Manchester Hatchery	Service
Bellevue State Park	\$1,360.00	for professional photographs taken of butterflies in Bellevue State Park's butterfly garden	Mary Kay Rubey
IA DNR - Fisheries Bureau	\$1,400.00	for 21,800 4" rainbow trout toward recovery efforts to replace trout lost in the flood at Manchester Hatchery	Doug Aloisi US Fish and Wildlife Service
IA DNR - Fisheries Bureau	\$1,500.00	for 10,000 4-1/2" rainbow trout toward recovery efforts to replace trout lost in the flood at Manchester Hatchery	David Hendrix US Fish and Wildlife Service
Mines of Spain Recreation Area	\$1,727.37	for the labor of clearing cedar trees out of two prairies and the construction of a bench on the prairie trail for the Eagle Scout Project	Daniel Meyer
IA DNR - Fisheries Bureau	\$2,000.00	for 13,500 5" rainbow trout toward recovery efforts to replace trout lost in the flood at Manchester Hatchery	Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
Mines of Spain Recreation Area	\$2,002.72	for the supplies, equipment, and labor for the Eagle Scout Project to build a retaining wall on the Eagle Scout Foot Trail	John Tallent
Mines of Spain Recreation Area	\$2,259.78	for the labor and food provided for the Eagle Scout Project of eradicating invasive species	Zach Marcov
IA DNR - Fisheries Bureau	\$2,500.00	for 45,000 3" rainbow trout toward recovery efforts to replace trout lost in the flood at Manchester Hatchery	John Fletcher US Fish and Wildlife Service
IA DNR - Fisheries Bureau	\$2,500.00	for 49,500 2-1/2" rainbow trout toward recovery efforts to replace trout lost in the flood at Manchester Hatchery	Jerry Weigel North Dakota Game & Fish Department and US Fish and Wildlife Service
IA DNR - Fisheries Bureau	\$3,000.00	for 7,000 7" rainbow trout toward recovery efforts to replace trout lost in the flood at Manchester Hatchery	Steve Krueger Illinois Department of Natural Resources
IA DNR - Fisheries Bureau	\$3,200.00	for 128,300 rainbow trout eggs toward recovery efforts to replace trout lost in the flood at Manchester Hatchery	Dr. Catherine Gatenby US Fish and Wildlife Service
Mines of Spain Recreation Area	\$3,954.94	for the materials, labor, and food for volunteers for the Eagle Scout Project to construct a hexagonal platform on the Cedar Ridge Trail for hikers to get an elevated view of the tall grass prairie	Matt Mueller
IA DNR Law Enforcement Bureau	\$4,000.00	for two Automated External Defibrillators for placement on patrol boats to assist with heart attack victims	Chad Andrews
IA DNR - Fisheries Bureau	\$6,000.00	for 15,000 6-1/2" rainbow trout toward recovery efforts to replace trout lost in the flood at Manchester Hatchery	Rick Cordes South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks

IA DNR Law Enforcement Bureau	\$7,000.00	for a SeaDoo rigid hull inflatable watercraft and trailer as a tool to for assisting in water related issues or rescue events.	Ron Wilharm
Lake Macbride State Park	\$10,000.00	for park improvements	Solon-Andreas Foundation

The following is information for the Commission regarding land related agreements previously approved during land acquisition presentations.

Donation to:	Amount	Description	Donation Provided by (Name/Org):
IA DNR	\$2,000.00	for the flowage easement at Dolliver State Park in Webster County	Kevin Stumpf
IA DNR	\$166,481.00	for the commitment of a below market value sale for the Little Sioux WMA in Clay County which provides protection for native and reconstructed prairie	Leslee Spraggins The Nature Conservancy
IA DNR	\$30,000.00	for the conservation easement at Maquoketa State Park in Jackson County	Tim Derga
IA DNR	\$354,440.00	for the commitment of a below market value sale for land acquired as an addition to Kuehn Conservation Area in Dallas County	Mark Ackelson Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

Commissioner Kircher moved. Commissioner Drees seconded. Commissioner Bird expressed his appreciation for the donors. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

21. General Discussion

Diane Ford-Shivvers presented the status of the Brushy Creek Advisory Trail Board and the process for selecting new board members. The Commission was asked to review the applicants for consideration and return to Kevin Szcodronski within two weeks. The scoring method was modeled after the State's hiring process scoring.

Commissioner Rettig inquired on DNR email addresses for the Commissioners and asked for a status of that process. She would like to see the Commissioners receive DNR addresses.

Commissioner Garst discussed her trip to Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA). It was informative but not necessarily set up for Commissioners. Commissioner Garst shared next year's event information. She said it is very beneficial to send staff to this conference and that the organizations cross fertilize themselves. She said most fish and wildlife agencies are heavily supported by fees and excise taxes and these revenue streams are falling apart across the nation. The new hope is to get revenue from cap and trade from global warming initiatives and legislation is being proposed. Some states are using their Wildlife Action Plan, some have revised them to, for example, include climate change. Commissioner Garst recommended staff get the Wildlife Action Plan back on the table and keep it alive and before the Commission. A staggering statistic that was discussed was that 1/3 of all species will be extinct by 2050 if we do not make changes now. Commissioner Garst had an opportunity to question these experts and found an endangered species particularly interesting. It was obvious that lead has become a big issue across the nation and she recognizes education is a big factor and suggests that Iowa be a leader in this. Commissioner Garst attended the agriculture committee member and all agreed the biggest problem for fish and wildlife was development. Commissioner Garst, as an Iowan, believes it is agriculture.

Commissioner Garst would like to have future commission presentations on endangered species and lead. Commissioner Garst recommended the watchable wildlife guide be updated. Commissioner Garst recommended visiting website www.wildlifeviewingareas.com for information on watchable wildlife areas.

Commissioner Kramer inquired if the Honey Creek Resort State Park Grand Opening on Friday would be considered an official Commission act or would it be going on your own. Ken Herring deferred to Director, Richard Leopold. Commissioner Rettig stated she thought the options to attend sanctioned meetings were made by either Director, Richard Leopold or the Commission itself. She also commented that the Grand Opening was something the commission has encouraged them to attend.

Commissioner Rettig reported on the Bond Authority meeting that was held in late September. The Bond Authority asked that a subcommittee be created to advise on future financial reporting requirements for Honey Creek and Liz Christiansen, Deputy Director recommended an NRC member be on the committee and asked the NRC's thoughts on that. Commissioners all agreed that member should be Commissioner Rettig.

Commissioner Rettig inquired, regarding the November 16-18, 2008, State Natural Resource Agency Leaders Symposium on Climate Change, Energy and Sustainable Practices, is a commissioner going to attend? Commissioner Bird will follow up with Rich Leopold, Director. November 17, 2008, is also the Commissioner training. Commissioner Kircher would be the only commissioner that may benefit from this training, all others have previously attended the training.

Commissioner Rettig reminded staff of her interest in receiving farming practice information and would like to see it on future NRC meeting agenda.

Ken Herring discussed the Sustainable Funding status and encouraged the Commissioners to be active in their role in supporting the issue.

22. Items for Next Meeting

Motion to adjourn. Commissioner Kircher moved. Commissioner Kramer seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2:13pm

Next Meetings:

- November 13 – Marshall County
- December 11 – Polk County